

Primer on the Connecticut Life Sciences Group

Connecticut's Life Sciences Group is working to formulate a strategy to help bring more scientific discoveries to market and build a vibrant life science industry in Connecticut. The group is composed of life science researchers, members of Connecticut's stem cell initiative, leaders in the business and venture capital communities, and representatives from universities, hospitals, the Connecticut General Assembly and the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD).

Purpose

The group is engaging in a process of strategy and policy development which will enable Connecticut to build a position of world leadership in key areas of life science with high commercial potential. The strategy includes the following objectives:

- Connect stakeholders—university scientists, hospital clinicians, advocacy groups and entrepreneurs—to create synergistic advantages for all
- Improve collaboration between researchers and entrepreneurs in order to increase commercialization opportunities
- Create a skilled workforce by working with universities and the Board of Regents
- Recruit important researchers and companies to Connecticut using the state's long-term, bipartisan commitment to science as an asset
- Improve coordination, cooperation and support for these activities while streamlining regulatory and licensing procedures

History and Structure

The group has met four times so far, on July 22, August 23, September 14 and October 4. The group has three levels of engagement: The Core Team, the Advisory Team and the Resource Team.

Membership

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| Ramin Ahmadi, Danbury Hospital Kip Bergstrom, DECD Richard Flath, University Equity Capital Susan Herbst, University of Connecticut Carlton Highsmith, Yale-New Haven Hospital Paul Hermes, Covidien Mary Holz-Clause, University of Connecticut Tony Hwang, Connecticut General Assembly Diane Krause, Yale University Marc Lalande, University of Connecticut | Haifan Lin, Yale University Jewel Mullen, DPH Paul Pescatello, CURE Lonnie Reed, Connecticut General Assembly Gualberto Ruafío, Genomas Tim Shannon, Canaan Partners Catherine Smith, DECD Jon Soderstrom, Yale University Stephen Squinto, Alexion Pharmaceuticals Milton Wallack, Connecticut Stem Cell Initiative |
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Please contact Kip Bergstrom (kip.bergstrom@ct.gov) for more information on the Life Sciences Group.